

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, substance abuse disorders are serious but treatable issues that impact Vermonters; and

WHEREAS, thousands of Vermonters in need of substance abuse services could benefit from treatment; and

WHEREAS, Vermonters seeking treatment for addiction need affordable, individualized treatment programs that offer appropriate referrals as well as access to treatment services; and

WHEREAS, every \$1 invested in treatment results in a return of \$4 to \$7 in costs associated with drug-related crime, criminal justice, and theft; and

WHEREAS, every \$1 invested in prevention results in \$10 to \$18 in reduced costs associated with health care, criminal justice and lost productivity; and

WHEREAS, with positive support and encouragement, people struggling with an addiction can recover and lead healthy and productive lives; and

WHEREAS, untreated substance abuse disorders negatively affect individuals, families, and communities while also impacting the criminal justice system, child welfare system, family and social service agencies, and faith-based and community organizations; and

WHEREAS, the Vermont Department of Health and the Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, are participating in the National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month; and

WHEREAS, Alcohol and Drug Recovery Month is an opportunity to encourage those dealing with substance abuse disorders to seek treatment, and to recognize the work of those providing affordable treatment programs in Vermont and across the country;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, do hereby recognize September 2015 as

ALCOHOL AND DRUG RECOVERY MONTH

in Vermont, and I call this observance to the attention of all our citizens.



*Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 18th day of August, A.D. 2015*

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'P' followed by a long horizontal line.

Peter Shumlin
Governor